

Name: _____ Date: _____

Finding and Using Text Evidence

Directions: Read *The Spider Curse* and “Is This the Most Hated Athlete of All Time?” Then complete the activity below.

1. Imagine that you are writing a paragraph about the rise and fall of Lance Armstrong.

A. Which of the following is the best topic sentence for your paragraph?

- Ⓐ Lance Armstrong used to have fans who would wait for hours during his races just to see him flash by on his bike.
- Ⓑ Lance Armstrong, once one of the world’s most celebrated athletes, became one of the most hated.
- Ⓒ Lance Armstrong was a natural athlete from the moment he took his first steps.

B. Which quote provides the best text evidence to support the topic sentence you chose in part A?

- Ⓐ “He was sued for millions of dollars, his sponsors dropped him, and he stepped down as the head of Livestrong.” (p. 19)
- Ⓑ “During his years of doping, Armstrong became an unstoppable force” (p. 18).
- Ⓒ “Armstrong wasn’t content risking only his own reputation and health, however” (p. 19).

C. Which of the following best explains why the text evidence you chose in question B is relevant?

- Ⓐ It proves that Armstrong was a bully.
- Ⓑ It portrays Armstrong as stubborn.
- Ⓒ It demonstrates that Lance was no longer a celebrated athlete.

2. Choose the text evidence that best supports the statement below. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.

Lance Armstrong was willing to do just about anything to win.

- Ⓐ "For years he had been taking performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs) to make his body leaner and stronger so he could race faster and longer. This is known as doping, and it is against the rules in cycling" (p. 18).
- Ⓑ "Armstrong's tactics were so successful that he felt invincible" (p. 19).
- Ⓒ "But doping is especially rampant in international cycling" (p. 18).

I chose ____ because _____

3. A. Choose three pieces of text evidence from *The Spider Curse* that BEST support the statement below.

Arachne was warned not to speak ill of the gods, but she didn't listen.

- Ⓐ Calista warns Arachne to be careful and says, "The gods do not like it when their gifts are not appreciated" (p. 14).
- Ⓑ Admiring Arachne's tapestries, the merchant says, "She has clearly been blessed by Athena" (p. 13).
- Ⓒ When Idmon tells Arachne she must show respect to the gods, Arachne says, "Why? It's not like the gods are so perfect" (p. 14).
- Ⓓ Right before the contest, Arachne says, "How would it look if I backed down now?" (p. 15)
- Ⓔ When Arachne boasts that Athena herself could not make a better tapestry, a customer says, "Good lady, the gods do not take kindly to mortals who make such boasts" (p. 15).

B. Select one piece of INCORRECT evidence from above and explain why it does NOT support the statement.

Evidence ____ does not support the statement because _____

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Finding Text Evidence

Directions: Read "The Spider Curse" and "Is This the Most Hated Athlete of All Time?" then complete the activity below. Some questions will ask you to select or find pieces of text evidence that support a statement we provide. Other questions will ask you to support your own statement with text evidence.

- 1. Choose two pieces of text evidence from "Is This the Most Hated Athlete of All Time?" that BEST support the statement below.**

The world-famous cyclist Lance Armstrong lied and cheated.

- Ⓐ "For years he had been taking performance-enhancing drugs (PEDs) to make his body leaner and stronger so he could race faster and longer. This is known as doping, and it is against the rules in cycling." (p. 18)
- Ⓑ "As for the doping? He says, 'If you take me back to 1995 . . . I'd probably do it again.'" (p. 19)
- Ⓒ "Meanwhile he had a system for doping that was staggering in both its sophistication and connivance." (p. 18)
- Ⓓ "But doping is especially rampant in international cycling." (p. 18)

- 2. Choose one piece of text evidence that BEST supports the statement. Then complete the sentence to explain your choice.**

Lance Armstrong was a bully.

- Ⓐ "Armstrong wasn't content risking only his own reputation and health, however." (p. 19)
- Ⓑ "Armstrong insisted that his teammates use PEDs as well, informing them that anyone who refused to dope would be kicked off the team." (p. 19)
- Ⓒ "Armstrong tried to shut down the investigation, even calling on powerful friends in Washington, D.C." (p. 19)

I chose ____ because _____

3. Below is a statement and two pieces of supporting evidence. Find one more piece of evidence from the play or the article and write it on the lines below.

Arachne and Armstrong both felt they were unbeatable.

Ⓐ "I am not afraid. (*shouting*) Athena, I challenge you to a weaving contest!" (p. 15)

Ⓑ "Armstrong's tactics were so successful that he felt invincible." (p. 19)

Ⓒ _____

4. Read the lines from the play below. Then write a statement that they all support.

Ⓐ Calista warns Arachne to be careful and says, "The gods do not like it when their gifts are not appreciated." (p. 14)

Ⓑ When Idmon tells Arachne she must show respect to the gods, Arachne says, "Why? It's not like the gods are so perfect." (p. 14)

Ⓒ When Arachne boasts that Athena herself could not make a better tapestry, a customer says, "Good lady, the gods do not take kindly to mortals who make such boasts." (p. 15)

5. Now it's your turn. Write a statement based on the play and/or the essay. Then list two pieces of text evidence that support the statement.

Ⓐ _____

Ⓑ _____
